We the undersigned hearing that Mr. John Hall is desirous of obtaining the office of Surveyor General under the land Law of the U. S. beg leave to take this occasion to declare that we conceive him to be extremely well qualified as a man of practical science to discharge the duties of the said office with accuracy and ability -

Philad.a May 24th 1796.

John Ewing Pro. of Univ.y

Robt. Patterson Prof. of Math. Univ.y

Dav.d Rittenhouse

Andw. Elliott.

Land Office Washington

in our present situation, and be apprised the moment there is any considerable sum in the Treasury I will inform Council of it

I am, Sir, Your Excellency's
most obedient humble Servant

His Excellency the President

Dav. Rittenhouse

DSI

very rare

3/
741

David Rittenhouse,
of Pennsylvania:
(1732 - 1796;)

a noted American astronomer and maker of astronomical instruments; he determined the boundary line since known as Mason and Dixon's line; member of the convention that framed the first State constitution; first State Treasurer; first superintendent of the Philadelphia mint; professor of astronomy in the University of Pennsylvania; president of the American Philosophical Society.

490 **RITTENHOUSE, DAVID.** Astronomer; Member Penna. Constitutional Convention; First Treasurer of Penn. Conclusion of letter, 3 lines and signature. Addressed to Washington. $3.00

L.S., one page, "U. S. Frigate President," 1813. $7.50

To the Sec. of the Navy mentioning *"Capt. Hull."* Fine signature.

501 **RODIN, AUGUSTE.** Sculptor.
A.L.S., 2 pages, 1908. $3.00